1: Wang--iv S-5 (1937) 1948 AE5 Miao AE5

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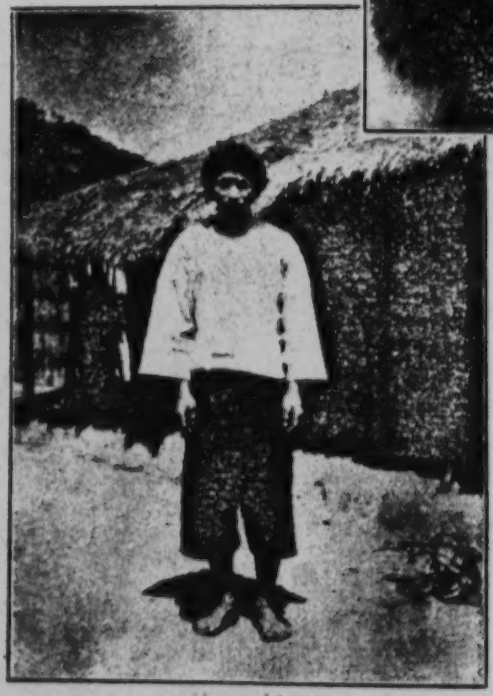
A Miao Woman



A Miao Man

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291 Women's dress: On the upper part of the body the women wear a collarless, knee-length dress, which fastens down the front. It has only one button but is tied by a belt around the waist so that the breast is covered. On the lower part of the body they wear a short petticoat. Since it is covered by a long dress only a small part of the petticoat is left outside. Miao women wear no trousers underneath. The petticoat is neatly printed with triangular designs done by the wax-dyeing method. The head is wrapped in a pointed ker-
●298 chief, which keeps the woman's face partly covered. It seems that the Miao woman does not wish to show her whole face to a stranger. The kerchief is embroidered with different designs. Young girls love to wear their round caps when they dress up. These caps are made of cloth of red, yellow, blue, and other colors sewed together and embroidered on top. They are beautiful to see. Married women do
304 not wear them. Shoes are not regularly worn by women. Their legs
301 are bound with strips of cloth in the same way soldiers wrap their legs. They also wear earrings and bracelets but no necklaces.

291 /44/ Due to long, uninterrupted contact with the Chinese, there
171 are many Miao men who wear Chinese clothes, particularly the young men. They wear wool caps, short shirts which fasten down the front, long pants, and rubber-soled shoes, which make them look exactly like the Chinese.

3. Dwellings

342 The Miao house is made of bamboo walls plastered with mud and roofed with thatch. The house is rectangular in shape with the door at the front. The overhang of the eaves facing the front is very wide and forms a corridor or lounge. Inside the house is divided by earthen walls into three parts. The two small rooms to the left and right serve as bedrooms and the central one as a living room. The kitchen stove, made of stone, is set up in the latter. The bed is
352 made of strips of bamboo, which are supported by long wooden benches. Bamboo mats are used as a mattress. Mosquito netting is also occasionally used. It is really surprising to see mosquito nets there, because even among the Chinese of Hainan, mosquito nets are only rarely seen.

/49 cont'd/

585 seated with the bridegroom in two rows facing each other. In a short time the bride was led out by a bridesmaid from the inner room and seated beside the bridegroom. Her head was also covered with a pointed kerchief which also covered half her face. After they were all seated, the bridesmaid and the go-betweens began offering wine to the bride and groom. After the wine they were offered the rice and pork liver. Then the go-betweens and the bridesmaid respectively took away the kerchiefs from the heads of both the bride and the bridegroom. As soon as their faces had been revealed, the couple immediately left their seats. The bridegroom hurried back to the small house and the bride to her room. The others, however, still continued to drink and sing for a long time before they dispersed. Later they gathered together in one of the side rooms. This time both men and women participated; they sang and drank till dawn.

The next morning the bride's family held a formal dinner in the side room to entertain all the guests. The bridegroom was led by one of the go-betweens to offer wine to each guest. At the same time one of the guests stood up and delivered a speech, the gist of which was advising the bridegroom to respect his elders, to work hard, to live a happy married life, to cooperate with his wife in the management of domestic affairs, etc. After listening to this advice, /50/ the bridegroom went into the main hall of the bride's house and offered wine to the elders and other members of the family. After this was done, he went directly to the bride's room but returned shortly to the small house to rest. What he did in the bride's room, I did not find out.

In the same afternoon the bride, escorted by a woman and followed by a young girl who carried a bundle of her clothes on her back, walked to the bridegroom's home. The bride was dressed as follows: Holding a oiled-paper umbrella, she wore a new dress and a round cap but was barefoot. In the bridegroom's home the scissors, sickle, and charcoal were also set up in the same way as in the bride's home the day before. Before entering the house, the bride

8: Graham E-5 (1921-1936) 1937 AE5 Miao AE5

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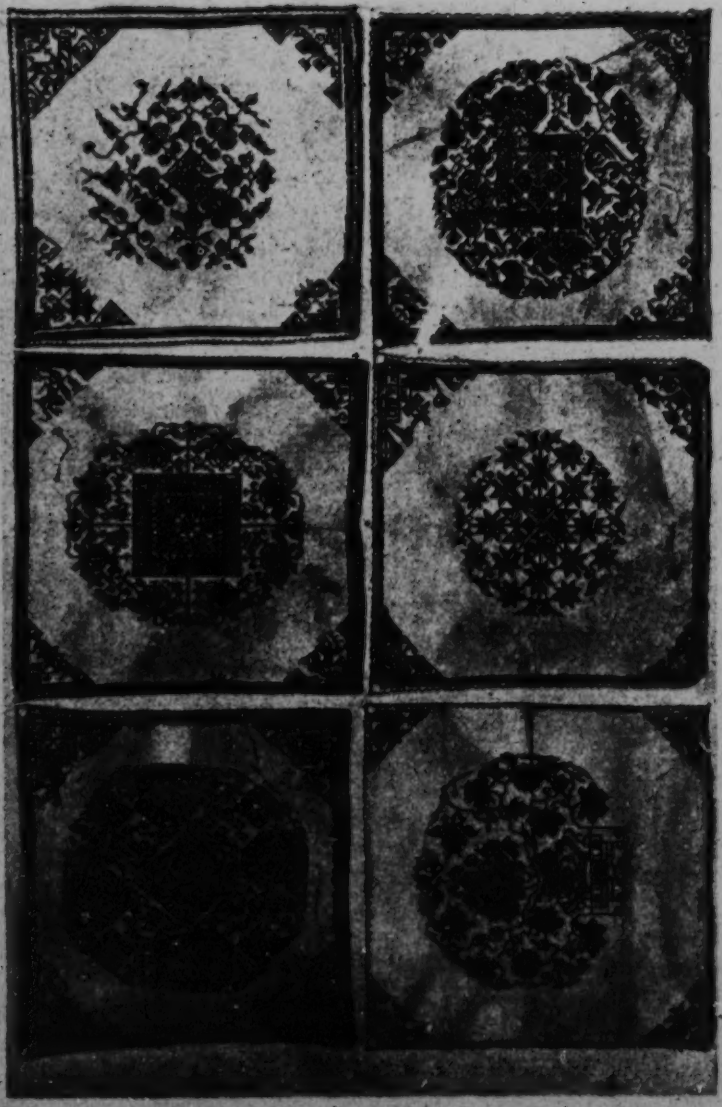

Ch'uan Miao embroidered handkerchiefs, now in the *West China Union University Museum of Archaeology.*

[facing p. 44]

8: Graham E-5 (1921-1936) 1937 AE5 Miao AE5

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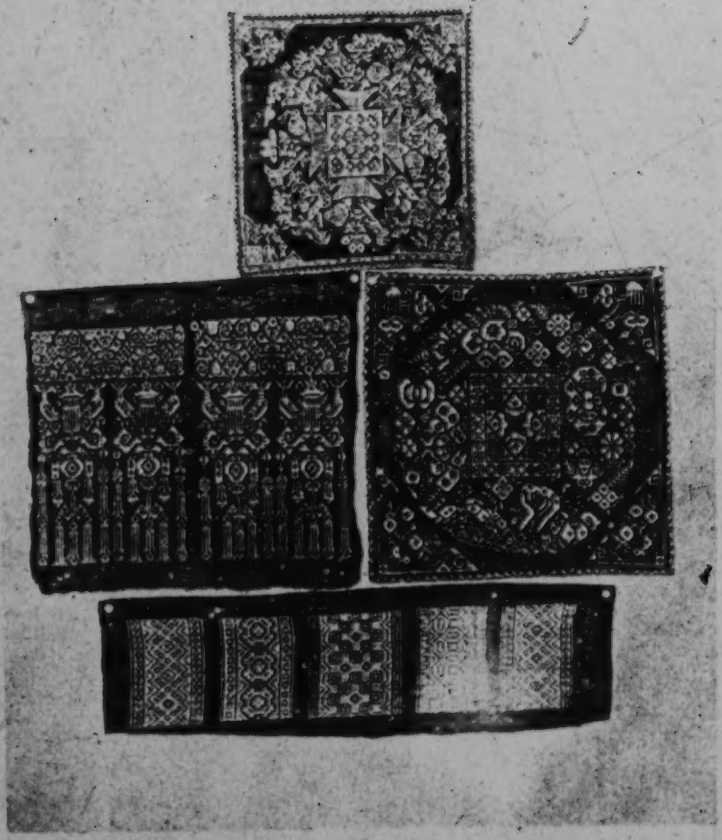

Ch'uan Miao embroidery—a halbard, two handkerchiefs, and an apron cloth—In the *West China Union University Museum of Archaeology*

[facing p. 60]

155: Abadie--238 G-5 (no date) 1924 AM1 Indochina
Miao AE 5

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165. Group of "Peu-Méo" Unmarried Girls

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424. Old "Peu-Méo" Man and Six of his Granddaughters.